Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Floor for a cargo compartment of an aircraft, comprising:

at least one floor element;

a functional unit for a cargo transportation means attached to said floor element; and

at least one floor beams supporting said at least one floor elements and adapted for connection to a skin of the aircraft, said floor element being rigidly connected to said at least one floor beam and thereby forming a prefabricated floor module adapted for installation in the aircraft, wherein

said floor beam is configured and adapted for connection to said skin of the aircraft at at least three different points of the floor beam: at a first point to a bottom portion of said aircraft, at a second point to a first side portion of said aircraft and at a third point to a second side portion of said aircraft laterally opposite said first side portion.

2. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said functional unit is mounted on said floor beam of the floor module.

3. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein at least one of an electrical control device and a mechanical control device for controlling said functional unit is connected to said functional unit.

4. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to claim 1, wherein a transmission socket for power transmission is attached to said floor module such that said transmission socket can be connected to a complementarily shaped transmission connectors provided on an adjacent floor module.

5. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein sections of at least one of cable channels, hydraulic conduits, water conduits, and electrical leads are provided in the floor module and are adapted such that they said sections can link to similar conducting devices in an adjacent floor module to form an overall conducting system when the floor modules are installed in the aircraft.

6. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 5, wherein the conducting device comprises branches that provide a connection to predetermined locations on the floor element or the functional units.

7. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein assembly elements are provided on said floor modules to provide a mechanically secure connection to adjacent floor modules during or after installation of said floor modules in the aircraft.

8. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said floor element defines at least one inspection opening that is closed by a floor-element section and that is provided to permit access to a bilge space below said floor element.

9. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 8, wherein the floor-element section is fixed to said floor element by means of a fast-action closure devices.

10. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said floor elements comprises a sealing device adapted to create a tight seal between a space defined above and a space defined below said the floor element.

11. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein a leakproof connecting element is provided and is adapted for the leakproof connection of said floor element to at least one of an adjacent floor element said skin of the aircraft.

12. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein a drainage device is provided to conduct fluids out of the cargo compartment and to transfer said fluid into a corresponding drainage device of an adjacent floor module.

13. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said the floor module comprises at least one floor panel on which a person can walk.

14. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein the floor module comprises at least one insulation device adapted to insulate a lower portion of the fuselage of said aircraft.

15. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 14, wherein said insulation device is disposed below said floor elements in the region of said supporting beam near said skin of said aircraft.

16. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Clam Claim 1, wherein said floor module comprises at least one of a bulkhead and a fixation device for the attachment of a bulkhead thereto.

17. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 16, wherein said bulkheads are comprised at least in part of a ballistically-resistant material.

18. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said floor module comprises at least one of an EE racks, a mounting device for electronic components, a fixation device for electronic components and a connecting devices for electronic components.

19. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said floor module comprises at least one of a water tank, a waste water tank, a fixation device and a connecting devices for said tanks.

20. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said floor module comprises at least one of a lining element and a mounting device for said elements, for lining the cargo compartment.

21. (Previously Presented) Cargo-compartment floor according to Claim 1, wherein said floor modules are constructed and are fastened to said skin of the aircraft in such a way that after installation in the aircraft they can be removed again in an arbitrary sequence.

22. (Withdrawn) Method for assembly of a floor for a cargo-compartment of an aircraft, comprising the following steps:

providing a floor element;

providing a floor beam adapted for connection to a skin of the aircraft;

attaching said to said floor beam such that the floor elements together with the supporting elements form a prefabricated floor modules that can be handled as a unit;

lifting said a floor module into said cargo compartment;

fastening said the floor beam to said skin of the aircraft; and

repeating said above steps until the floor of the cargo compartment has been completed.

23. (Withdrawn) Method according to Claim 22, comprising the additional step of mounting a functional unit for a cargo transportation means on the floor element before the latter is lifted into the cargo compartment.

24. (Withdrawn) Method according to Claims 22 wherein a connecting step that follows the step of lifting into the cargo compartment in which at least one of

control devices to control functional units;

conduction devices such as cable channels, hydraulic conduits, water conduits, electrical leads and similar conduction devices; and

drainage devices for conducting fluids out of the cargo compartment are connected to corresponding control devices, conducting devices and drainage devices associated with an adjacent floor module that has been fixed within the cargo compartment.

25. (Withdrawn) Method according to Claim 24, wherein at least parts of the connecting step is performed prior to the final fixation of the supporting elements to said skin of the aircraft.

26. (Currently Amended) A partially assembled aircraft, comprising:

a substantially cylindrical fuselage; and

a prefabricated cargo floor module for a lower cargo deck of the aircraft comprising at least one floor element, a functional unit for a cargo transportation means attached to said floor element and at least one floor beam supporting said at least one floor element and adapted for connection to a skin of said aircraft, said floor element being rigidly connected to said at least one floor beam, wherein

said prefabricated cargo floor module rests within said substantially cylindrical fuselage without said prefabricated cargo floor module being connected to said fuselage.

27. (Currently Amended) Floor for a lower cargo compartment of an aircraft, comprising:

at least one lower cargo compartment floor element;

a functional unit for a cargo transportation means attached to said floor element; and

at least one floor beam supporting said at least one floor element and adapted for connection to a skin of the aircraft, said floor element being rigidly connected to said at least one floor beam and thereby forming a prefabricated floor module adapted for installation in the aircraft, wherein

said floor module comprises at least one of a water tank and a waste water tank.

28. (Currently Amended) An aircraft, comprising:

a substantially cylindrical fuselage; and

a prefabricated cargo floor module mounted at an ultimate position within said substantially cylindrical fuselage to form at least a portion of a lower cargo deck of said aircraft, wherein

said prefabricated cargo floor module comprises at least one floor element, a functional unit for a cargo transportation means attached to said floor element and at least one floor beam supporting said at least one floor element and adapted for connection to a skin of said aircraft, said floor element being rigidly connected to said at least one floor beam, and

said substantially cylindrical fuselage and said prefabricated cargo floor module are configured and adapted such that said substantially cylindrical fuselage receives and supports said prefabricated cargo floor module substantially at said ultimate position prior to said prefabricated cargo floor module being connected to said fuselage.

29. (Currently Amended) A prefabricated cargo floor module for mounting at an ultimate position within a substantially cylindrical fuselage of an aircraft to form at least a portion of a lower cargo deck of said aircraft, comprising:

at least one lower cargo deck floor element;

a functional unit for a cargo transportation means attached to said floor element; and

at least one floor beam supporting said at least one floor element and adapted for connection to a skin of said aircraft, wherein

said floor element is rigidly connected to said at least one floor beam, and

said prefabricated cargo floor module is configured and adapted to be received and supported by said substantially cylindrical fuselage substantially at said ultimate position prior to said prefabricated cargo floor module being connected to said fuselage.